(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Air Force has taken several steps to reduce avian menace. These include vegetation clearance, use of zon guns, reflective tapes, bird shooters, establishment of bird hazard combat teams, denial of habitat to birds and use of microlites etc.

Flag meetings between Coast Guard and Marine Security Agency of Pakistan

1557. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coast Guard has put forward any new proposals for periodical flag meetings between Coast Guard and the Marine Security Agency of Pakistan;

(b) if yes, the details of the proposal; and

(c) how these new proposals help the Indian fishermen who are languishing in Pakistan jails and the fishermen who stray, unintentionally, in the Pakistani waters?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) This proposal suggests alternate flag meetings, onboard ship of Indian Coast Guard/Pakistan Maritme Security Agency, in the month of April and September. Such meetings will facilitate frequent repatriation of the apprehended fishermen of both countries.

Attaining self-sufficiency in missiles defence system

1558. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is still importing surface to air missiles from Russia;

(b) if so, whether India is still not self-sufficient in indigenous air attack missile defence systems; and